

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are currently pending in this application. Applicants have amended the specification by adding the abstract which is present in the equivalent published PCT application (WO 03/075894). No new matter is presented.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 1-17

Formal Matters

The Examiner indicated that the application does not contain an abstract of the disclosure as required by 37 CFR 1.72(b). As such, Applicants have amended the specification herein to insert an abstract on new page 23, after the listing of claims. The abstract is equivalent to the abstract in the published PCT application (WO 03/075894). Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance.

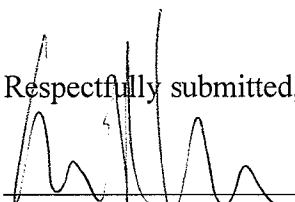
Conte et al.
USSN: 10/507,345


CONCLUSION

On the basis of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowance for the pending claims is respectfully requested. If there are any questions regarding this application that can be handled in a phone conference with Applicants' Attorneys, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

Reg. No. 58,032


Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529


Naomi S. Biswas, Reg. No. 38,384

Attorneys for Applicants

MINTZ, LEVIN

Tel: 617-542-6000

Fax: 617-542-2241

Customer No. 30623

Date: March 14, 2008

ACTIVE 4279156v.1